CLAIMS

1.   A method for selecting a color map for use in printing a document, comprising:

obtaining color space information about the document;

obtaining at least two color maps; and

determining which of the at least two color maps will result in a printed document that is more consistent with the color space information and a desired rending intent.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the at least two color maps are derived from color information obtained by sensors in a print path of a printer.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein the determining step comprises:

analyzing a boundary of each color map; and

performing a best-fit analysis with respect to the color space information.

4.   The method of claim 3, wherein best-fit analysis comprises mean and maximum difference calculations on boundaries of a color space consistent with the color space information and a color space associated with each of the at least two color maps.

5.   The method of claim 3, wherein best-fit analysis is based on calculating and comparing volumes of a color space associated with the document and of a color space associated with each of the color maps.

6. The method of claim 3, wherein best-fit analysis is based on determining a percentage of colors used by the document contained within each of the at least two color maps.

7. The method of claim 3, wherein best-fit analysis is based on determining the percentage of the area of the document associated with colors contained within each of the color maps.

8. The method of claim 1, additionally comprising:
generating a custom gamut mapping.

9. The method of claim 1, additionally comprising:
previewing an approximation of a printed appearance of the document based on at least one of the at least two color maps.

10. The method of claim 1, additionally comprising:
providing a preferences interface to an author, whereby the author may indicate a preferred rendering intent to constrain the determining step.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the desired rendering intent is based on an absolute colorimetric.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein desired the rendering intent is based on a perceptual rendering intent.

13. The method of claim 1, additionally comprising locating the at least two color maps on a print server.

14. The method of claim 1, additionally comprising locating the at least two color maps on individual printers.

15. A method, comprising:

obtaining color space information about a document;

evaluating the color space information and at least two color maps; and

determining which of the at least two color maps will result in a printed document more consistent with the color space information and a desired rendering intent.

16. The method of claim 15, additionally comprising providing a library of color maps from which to select for the evaluating step.

17. The method of claim 15, additionally comprising providing an interface to determine the desired rendering intent.

Case No. 10004098-1

18. A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions thereon which, when executed by a printing system, cause the printing system to:

obtain color space information on the document;

evaluate the color space information and at least two color maps; and

determine which of the at least two color maps will result in a printed document more consistent with the color space information and a desired rendering intent.

19. A system, comprising:

a document requirements module, to obtain color space information on a document; and

an evaluation module to determine which, of at least two color maps associated with at least one printer, will result in a printed document more consistent with the color space information and a desired rendering intent.

20. The system of claim 19, additionally comprising:

a preferences interface, to obtain information from a document's author on the desired rendering intent.

21. The system of claim 19, additionally comprising:

a gamut management module, in communication with the evaluation module, to organize a gamut library.

Case No. 10004098-1